

of H.R. 2879, I submit for the RECORD the letter I received from Thomas Williams who came up with the idea for the need of a marker on the Lincoln Memorial to commemorate the "I have a Dream" speech of Martin Luther King on August 28, 1963.

Beyond paying respect to Dr. King, this bill offers acknowledgment that our legislative system works as planned. For only in the United States can an idea of an interested individual result in good legislation, and I am hopeful—law. I thank Mr. Williams for his contribution to his country and to the future of our nation.

NOVEMBER 30, 1998.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE NORTHUP: In October of 1997 my wife and I visited Washington, D.C. The city, with its buildings, statues and monuments, was rich with symbolism. Despite the vastness of the space and the beauty of its design, what struck me most during the trip was a single man sitting on the steps of the Capitol. He sat there in plain view of the police with a sign indicating (if memory serves me) that he had fought in the Viet Nam war but was not now receiving veteran's benefits. The guard there indicated it wasn't true, but what struck me most was the fact that a single citizen could sit peacefully on the steps of the Capitol without being escorted away because he was unworthy of the space he selected to rest. There, literally on the threshold of our nation's most-powerful leaders, he sat. Other nations, I thought, might be embarrassed by the scene. Nevertheless, I somehow felt that I had witnessed—there on the steps—a living testament to our freedom and our greatness.

Later that day, my wife and I walked to the Lincoln Memorial where, at the steps of the memorial to one of our nation's greatest presidents, Martin Luther King delivered the "I Have A Dream Speech". I looked for the spot on which Martin Luther King stood when he spoke. I looked for a marker to remind me and others that—for a single moment on a hot August day—a descendent of a slave held the most prominent space in our nation and delivered words that will always stay with that space. I couldn't find a marker or the words on those steps.

Several months later at my home in Louisville, Kentucky, I attended a service at the Cathedral of the Assumption in which the Church celebrated a moment of personal revelation by Thomas Merton, the monk. Forty years earlier, when walking out of the Starks building on what was then 4th and Walnut, he realized in a profound way that we are all one. The Church celebrated the 40th anniversary of that event with a simple Mass and marker. To me, the service and the marker were both reminders that the ordinary space we sometimes occupy can become forever changed by the deeds of a person who stood there. I am confident it was no accident that the Church waited 40 years to commemorate the event.

My visit to Washington and my attendance at the Merton mass sparked a vision and a question in my mind. Wouldn't it be right to celebrate the 40th year of Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech with a ceremony and a marker at the footsteps of the Lincoln Memorial? The anticipation and planning of such an event might lead to collective good. In my mind's eye, I saw a day in which the "I Have A Dream" speech would be delivered again for those who have never heard it. I saw a day in which Martin Luther King might be remembered for the inspiration he provided to all of our citizens.

Looking even further into the future, I saw a day when I could bring my yet unborn children to that spot where Martin Luther King spoke and I could show them that marker and read them the words of his dream. I

could tell him that this is still a nation where a simple Kentucky farmer could rise to the heights of President and a son of a slave could inspire future generations with the power of his words and his compassion.

My vision and these thoughts I share with you are personal—but far from novel. Perhaps something like this is already in the works and I am simply unaware. In any event, I am writing for some practical suggestions for bringing this vision to a reality.

Sincerely,

TOM WILLIAMS.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2879.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2879 and add any extraneous material that they so desire.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

#### SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING THE TRAFFICKING OF BABY PARTS

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 350) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to private companies involved in the trafficking of baby body parts for profit.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 350

Whereas the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993 effectively lifted the ban on federally funded research involving the transplantation of baby body parts, and such Act made it a Federal felony for any person to knowingly, for "valuable consideration," purchase or sell baby body parts (with a term of imprisonment of up to 10 years and with fines of up to \$250,000 in the case of an individual and \$500,000 in the case of an organization);

Whereas private companies have sought to meet the demand by both public and private research facilities by providing baby body parts;

Whereas the definition of "valuable consideration" under the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993 does not include reasonable payments associated with the transportation, implantation, processing, preservation, quality control, or storage of baby body parts; and

Whereas private companies appear to believe that the definition of "valuable consideration" allows them to circumvent Federal law and avoid felony charges with impunity while trafficking in baby body parts for profit: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Congress should

exercise oversight responsibilities and conduct hearings, and take appropriate steps if necessary, concerning private companies that are involved in the trafficking of baby body parts for profit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 350 and to insert extraneous material on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 350, a much-needed resolution which would bring greater attention to a sordid trade in the bodies of aborted babies. I salute the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) for working so diligently to bring this matter to the attention of the House.

I have a copy of a brochure from a company called Opening Lines recently of West Frankfurt, Illinois, which has now moved its base of operations to an undisclosed location. This brochure boasts, "Our goal is to offer you and your staff the highest quality, most affordable, and freshest tissue, prepared to your specifications, and deliver it in the quantities you need when you need it."

This company was founded, according to its brochure, "in order to provide a convenient and efficient way for researchers to receive fetal tissue without a lot of bureaucracy."

The brochure explains that, "We have simplified the process for procuring fetal tissue. We do not require a copy of your IRB approval or summary of your research, and you are not required to cite Opening Lines of the source of tissue when you publish your work. We believe in word-of-mouth advertising. If you like our service, you will tell your colleagues."

Mr. Speaker, Congress has spoken forcefully on the matter of selling aborted baby parts before. There is no question that it is illegal in the United States for any person to buy or sell fetal tissue effecting interstate commerce.

Yet, the documents we have here show very clearly that, if this is true, that anyone can buy whatever part of a dead baby may be decided. According to this brochure, it is \$50 for ears, \$150 for lungs and hearts, \$325 for a spinal column, and a pair of eyes cost \$50. But the buyer is offered a 40 percent discount for a single eye. Prices are in effect through December 31, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, companies like Opening Lines and their main competitor, the